

Message Text

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73

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 SWF-02 AID-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00

COME-00 EB-11 FRB-03 INR-11 NSAE-00 RSC-01 CIEP-03

SP-03 STR-08 TRSE-00 LAB-06 SIL-01 SAM-01 OMB-01

DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 L-03 NSC-07 PA-04 PRS-01 SS-20

USIA-15 OIC-04 DRC-01 /178 W
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INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

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AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

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E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: EEC, UNGA, DA

SUBJECT: UNGA OBSERVER STATUS FOR EUROPEAN COMMUNITY

REF: COPENHAGEN 2681

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1. IN MEETING OF FOREIGN POLICY COMMITTEE SEPTEMBER 25 PM HARTLING IRONED OUT DISAGREEMENT OVER DANISH APPROVAL OF EC REQUEST FOR UNGA OBSERVER STATUS. PM GAVE CAREFULLY PHRASED STATEMENT WHICH DEFINED POSITION AND LIMITATIONS OF EC OBSERVER, PARTICULARLY THAT OBSERVER WOULD NOT MAKE "POLITICAL" REPRESENTATIONS, THAT HE WOULD PRESENT ONLY VIEWS APPROVED BY ALL NINE, THAT ESTABLISHMENT OF EC OBSERVER STATUS WOULD NOT EFFECT NORDIC UNGA COOPERATION OR DANISH FOREIGN AID POLICY IN UN. FOREIGN POLICY COMMITTEE IS NOW EXPECTED TO APPROVE EC REQUEST IN MEETING TODAY.

2. COMMITTEE'S SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC REP FORMER FONMIN K.B. ANDERSEN, SAID AFTER MEETING THAT IF INFORMATION GIVEN BY PM HAD BEEN SUBMITTED BY FONMIN GULDBERG AT START OF MATTER, NO PROBLEM WOULD HAVE ARISEN. (UNEXPECTED OPPOSITION TO OBSERVER STATUS REQUEST FORCED GULDBERG PUBLICLY TO RECONFIRM GOVT'S ADHERENCE TO ESTABLISHED PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE (REFTEL PARA 2) AS WELL HAS TO ASK EC PARTNERS FOR POSTPONEMENT OF REQUEST REPORTEDLY, PARTNERS REACTION WAS FLATELY NEGATIVE)

3. SOCIAL DEMOCRAT'S POSITION WAS WEAKENED WHEN IT WAS RUMORED THAT EC INTENDED TO DESIGNATE FORMER DANISH SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC PM KRAG. NOW EC REP IN WASHINGTON AS OBSERVER WHEN AND IF REQUEST ACCEPTED BY UN.

4. COMMENT: THE IMMEDIATE PROBLEM IS APPARENTLY RESOLVED ALBEIT AT SOME CONSIDERABLE EMBARRASEMENT TO DANES WITH THEIR EC COLLEAGUES. WHILE THE INCIDENT MAY HAVE ARISEN IN PART BECAUSE OF DESIRE BY OPPOSITION PARTIES TO EMBARRASS THE GOVT AND GULDBURG PERSONALLY IT IS ALSO INDICATIVE OF THE CONTINUING SENSITIVITIES OF SOME DANES TO A POLITICALLY-COORDINATE COMMUNITY. ON A MORE PRACTICAL SIDE, THE CONTRETEMPS IS LIKELY TO ESTABLISH MORE FIRMLY THAN BEFORE THE ROLE OF THE PARLIAMENTARY MARKETS COMMITTEE IN DANISH EC POLICY FORMULATION. WHILE THIS WAS A BAD TEST CASE, IT SUGGESTES THAT A SITUATION COULD ARISE IN WHICH THE MARKETS COMMITTEE COULD FORCE DENMARK TO VETO A EC COUNCIL DECISION.

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5. BECAUSE OF HIS RECENT STINT AS FOREIGN MINISTER AND HIS INTIMATE KNOWLEDGE OF COMMUNITY AND UN AFFAIRS, K.B. ANDERSEN MUST HAVE HAD TONGUE VERY MUCH IN CHEEK WHEN HE CLAIMED HE HAD NOT KNOWN ROLE EC OBSERVER WOULD PLAY. PRIMIN'S DOMESTIC ADVISER TOLD DCM AND POL CONS SEPT 26 THAT FROM HIS RECOLLECTION THE ISSUE OF AN EC OBSERVER AT THE UN HAD FIRST BEEN DISCUSSED AND AGREED TO IN PRI-

CIPLE IN 1971, WHEN SOCIAL DEMOCRATS WERE IN POWER WITH
ANDERSEN AS FONMIN. HARTLINGS EXPLANATION AFFORDED
ANDERSEN A CONVEIENT MEANS TO WITHDRAW HIS WIDELY-CRITICIZED
(AND SOMEWHAT CYNICAL) OBJECTION.
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